Cooperation with Romania in gas sector

1483. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to further enhance cooperation in the oil and gas sector with Romania;

(b) if so, whether Government have held talks in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof;

(d) whether an Indian delegation had visited Romania for this purpose recently;

(e) if so, the composition thereof;

(f) the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(g) whether Romania have also proposed to extend its expertise in fire fighting and safety of oil installations, particularly of ONGC and Oil India Ltd.?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (g) A delegation led by the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, comprising Additional Secretary (IC) in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MOP&NG); Director, Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell; representatives of GAIL (India) Limited, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC); and Vice Chancellor, University of Petroleum & Energy Studies, Dehradun, visited Romania between the 1st—4th July, 2005.

Discussions were held on the following specific areas for bilateral cooperation:—

(i) Cooperation in the area of research and development;

(ii) Invitation to Romania companies to invest in India's new refinery projects and *vice-versa;*

(iii) Cooperation in third countries.

The following MOUs/Cooperation Agreements were signed during the Minister's visit:—

(i) MoU between the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and the Ministry of Economy and Commerce of Romania to establish the basis for a cooperative institutional relationship and encourage and promote bilateral cooperation on oil and natural gas development issues.

(ii) Cooperation Agreement between the Keshav Deo Malaviya Institute of Petroleum Exploration, ONGC, and Petroleum-Gas University (PGU) of Ploiesti, Romania, to undertake to identify problems related to upstream activities in Indian sedimentary basins and prepare time bound programmes for research and development leading to resolution of the problems.

(iii) Cooperation Agreement between the University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun and PGU of Ploiesti, Romania, to identify, develop, promote and exchange of information in the areas Of common interest in petroleum industry education and training.

(iv) MoU between Confederation of Indian Industry and Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Prahova, Romania, to encourage bilateral activities to facilitate Romania-India business partnership.

During the visit, there was proposal from Romania to supply turbo jet fire fighting equipment. The proposal is being examined by ONGC.

Romania also offered cooperation in providing services in crisis management in oilfield operations. Oil India Limited (OIL) has requested the Romanian Government to intimate details of expertise in this regard available in Romania.

The expenditure on the visit of the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas was borne by Cabinet Secretariat. The expenditure on the visit of Additional Secretary (IC), MOP&NG, to be borne by MOP&NG, has not yet been settled. As regards the other members of the delegation, the expenditure was borne by the PSUs/organizations concerned.

Later, the Romanian Minister for Economy and Commerce, with senior officers and captains of the Romanian petroleum industry, visited

India between the 22nd—24th October, 2005, to pursue the areas of bileteral cooperation that had emerged from Petroleum Minister's visit earlier. During this visit, besides, delegation-level talks, company-level discussions were also held.

Demand for petroleum products

†1484. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that indigenous production as well as imports are required in order to meet the demand of petroleum and other products related with it in the country;

(b) if so, the average percentage of demand being met through indigenous production and import during last three years; and

(c) whether Government have formulated any scheme to meet this demand in the country through indigenous production only; if so, the time bound target in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) About three-fourths of the national demand for crude oil in terms of refinery throughput is met through imports. Details regarding year-wise production, import and consumption of crude oil during the last three years from 2002-03 to 2004-05, are given below:—

Item	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Crude Oil (Million Tonnes)			
Indigenous Production	33.044	33.373	33.901
Imports	81.990	90.430	95.860
Consumption (In terms of refinery crude throughput)	112.560	121.840	127.120
Indigenous production as percentage consumption	29.36	27.39	26.67

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.